

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1, 4, 7, 8, and 10-19 remain in the application for consideration of the Examiner.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1 and 4 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting rejection over Claims 1-3 of US Patent No. 6,630,866.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Examiner alleges that the claims are not patentably distinct because the subject matter of a transconductance  $g_m$  cell is in conflict with the  $g_m$  cell of Claim 1 of US Patent 6,630,866.

A transconductance cell converts a voltage difference to a current.

A  $g_m$  cell relates to the gain of the cell.

It is this factor that renders the present invention patentably distinct from US Patent 6,630,866.

Turning now to the art rejections, Claims 1, 4, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Uscategui.

It is respectfully submitted that Uscategui does not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention including the pre-driver sub-stage having a plurality of

transistors being biased by a plurality of current sources, the pre-driver sub-stage being adapted to accept a current signal from an input transconductance  $g_m$  cell.

The Examiner alleges that this aspect is inherent.

A teaching from the prior art is respectfully requested to substantiate the allegations of the Examiner.

Applicants appreciate the indication that Claims 10-19 are allowed.

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 4, 7, 8, and 10-19 are patentably distinct over the applied art.


In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 4, 7, 8, and 10-19 are in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant response places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,



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